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COUNTRY Spain  
SUBJECT Pro-US Sympathies  
PLACE ACQUIRED (BY SOURCE) - - - -  
DATE ACQUIRED (BY SOURCE) 1948 - Aug 53  
DATE OF INFO 1948 - Aug 53

DATE Aug 53

Supplement to:

Responsive to:

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Source or Clarifying Statement:

1. In the employ of US and foreign airlines, I have made approximately 60 trips to Madrid, which has resulted in more than a talking acquaintance with aeronautical engineers of the Spanish Government and business people in Spain. They are pro-US in their way of thinking and in their political beliefs, as they like the liberty and freedoms of US nationalists.
2. A fear was expressed to me by these people, particularly aeronautical engineers of the Iberian Airlines, that if a foreign country established air bases in Spain and brought in military personnel with a much higher rate of pay than Spanish military personnel, a friction might develop between the Spanish people and this foreign nation. In this expression of their opinion, the people with whom I talked did not think actual Government to Government relations would become strained, but rather people to people.
3. Spanish business people are very conscious of the Communist influences being exerted in their neighboring countries, France and Italy. From these discussions I gathered the impression that Spaniards would not like to fall under Communist influences and that the end result may be that both the Spanish Government and the people in Spain will become more and more pro-US. They also indicated to me they were beginning to get tired of the Franco regime, mainly because it has been in power so long that they would like to see a change. I had no contact with the poorer working class or peons and don't know how they feel with respect to Franco. I did have contact with cleaners of aircraft and they seem to be quite content and happy with their way of life.

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